Ash, Harry A.

1927

Harry A. Cole
Inheritance Tax Attorney

C icago, Ill.

No capable Chicago evaluator known here.

Am writing fully today.

Secretary American Numismatic Society

July 22, 1927

Mr. Harry A. Ash,
Inheritance Tax Attorney,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir:-

Your telegram of the 22nd, asking that we recommend someone we believe capable of evaluating a large collection of coins is at hand. You do not state the size of the collection, but the fact that it is in Illinois and that the work is to be done for inheritance tax purposes, identifies your question as applying to the Brand collection, and this greatly simplifies responding. If this assumption is incorrect, most of the following statements would apply equally to any other collection of similar extent.

It is very difficult to find a single individual equipped for doing this work for so large a collection. There are a number of dealers who would be very glad to have the commission and though each of them would be informed regarding one or more sections, no single one would be equipped for handling the whole. Our Society could hardly recommend one above the other - even confidentially, because all of them are members of this Society and we cannot show partiality.

The individual who is better equipped, however, than any of the dealers and who unlike them would be disinterested, is Mr. Howland Wood, the Curator of this Museum. I am unable to state whether his duties here would permit his undertaking this task. He will not return from vacation until the end of next week. If you care to entertain the above as a suggestion and desire to communicate further with Mr. Wood, if you will address him here, I shall endeavor to see that your communication reaches him with the least delay possible.

Very truly yours,

Secretary

SPN:MB